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B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03445 01 OF 02 162118Z
ACTION WHA-00

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| INFO | LOG-00 | NP-00 | AID-00 | AMAD-00 | ACQ-00 | CIAE-00 | CTME-00 |
| | INL-00 | DS-00 | EB-00 | EUR-00 | EXIM-01 | E-00 | VC-00 |
| | FRB-00 | H-01 | TEDE-00 | INR-00 | ITC-01 | LAB-01 | VCE-00 |
| | AC-01 | DCP-01 | NRRC-00 | NSAE-00 | OMB-01 | OPIC-01 | PM-00 |
| | ACE-00 | SP-00 | STR-00 | TRSE-00 | USIE-00 | R-00 | EPAE-00 |
| | PMB-00 | DSCC-00 | PRM-00 | DRL-02 | G-00 | NFAT-00 | SAS-00 |

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O 162058Z APR 02
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8184
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
USCINCSO MIAMI FL
NSC WASHDC
SECDEF WASHDC
DIRONDCP WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BOGOTA 003445

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/16/12
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PHUM, PINR, ECON, OAS, CO, VE
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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 03445 01 OF 02 162118Z
SUBJECT: TFVE01: VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA MAKES
CONTROVERSIAL PUBLIC REMARKS

REF: A) STATE 70877 B) STATE 71650

CLASSIFIED BY CDA KEN ELLIS. REASONS 1.5 (B, D).

SUMMARY:

1. (C) ON APRIL 15, VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA (AND SOON TO BE
U.S. AMBASSADOR) ROY CHADERTON TOLD COLOMBIAN MEDIA THAT HE HAD
PROVIDED HIS GOVERNMENT WITH A "REPORT" LISTING THE NAMES OF

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ALAN H FLANIGAN
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 25X6
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 16 APR 2027
DATE/CASE ID: 18 JUN 2007 200504156

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COLOMBIAN POLITICAL, BUSINESS AND MEDIA FIGURES WHO "WELCOMED" CHAVEZ'S OVERTHROW. IN RESPONSE TO CHADERTON'S REMARKS, COLOMBIA'S ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER CLEMENCIA FORERO FILED A DIPLOMATIC PROTEST WITH THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT. DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THE EVENING OF APRIL 15, FORERO CALLED CHADERTON'S LIST "A VEILED THREAT AGAINST THE SOCIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL FOUNDATION OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP."

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END

SUMMARY.

2. (U) DURING AN APRIL 15 COLOMBIAN RADIO INTERVIEW, VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA (AND SOON TO BE U.S. AMBASSADOR) ROY CHADERTON
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 03445 01 OF 02 162118Z
ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD SENT THE CHAVEZ GOVERNMENT A REPORT IN WHICH HE LISTED THE NAMES OF COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS, MEDIA FIGURES WHO HAD PUBLICLY "WELCOMED" THE FALL OF PRESIDENT HUGO CHAVEZ. CHADERTON ADDED THAT MANY OF THESE PROMINENT FIGURES HAD "BEGUN TO DANCE BEFORE THE BAND ARRIVED." CHADERTON WAS ESPECIALLY CRITICAL OF COLOMBIAN FINANCE MINISTER JUAN MANUEL SANTOS, WHO HAD STATED THAT ERSTWHILE VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT PEDRO CARMONA WAS AN ADVOCATE OF STRONG BILATERAL COMMERCIAL RELATIONS. CHADERTON MADE EQUALLY ABRASIVE REMARKS AGAINST THE REST OF THE SANTOS FAMILY, LONGTIME OWNERS OF "EL TIEMPO," COLOMBIA'S LARGEST DAILY. CHADERTON ADDED THAT HE HAS DECIDED TO CANCEL A FAREWELL RECEPTION HE HAD PLANNED PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON.

3. (U) FOLLOWING CHADERTON'S REMARKS, ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER CLEMENCIA FORERO SENT A DIPLOMATIC PROTEST NOTE TO THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT, CLARIFYING THAT NEITHER SHE NOR PRESIDENT PASTRANA HAD EXPRESSED PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR VENEZUELA'S INTERIM GOVERNMENT. IN THE NOTE, SHE ADDED THAT (CHADERTON'S) "ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE EXISTENCE OF A LIST CONSTITUTES, IN THE OPINION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA, A VEILED THREAT AGAINST THE SOCIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL FOUNDATION OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP."

4. (U) FORERO CALLED A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE EVENING OF APRIL 15, IN WHICH SHE REPEATED STATEMENTS SHE HAD MADE ON APRIL 12 REGARDING PEDRO CARMONA'S INTERIM GOVERNMENT. FORERO STRESSED SHE HAD NOT GONE BEYOND STATING THAT CARMONA WAS A GREAT PROMOTER OF BILATERAL INTEGRATION, AND "HOPED THAT THE TRANSITION WOULD SIGNAL THE RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AND THE GUARANTEE OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS TO THE VENEZUELAN PEOPLE." IN AN APRIL 15 LETTER TO "EL TIEMPO," FORERO ADDED THAT "COLOMBIA CONDEMNED THE INTERRUPTION IN VENEZUELA'S

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CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER" AND HAD SPONSORED THE RIO GROUP DECLARATION.
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PAGE 04 BOGOTA 03445 01 OF 02 162118Z

5. (C)

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6. (C)

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CONFIDENTIAL PTQ2226

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03445 02 OF 02 162118Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BOGOTA 003445

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7. (C)

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8. (C) COMMENT:

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PAGE 03 BOGOTA 03445 02 OF 02 162118Z

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